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ABSTRACT

This biography profiles the late Elizabeth (Betty) Murray, an educator and community leader from Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia (Canada). Chapter 1 looks at Murray's leadership skills as, at age 77, she prepared and directed her annual musical in which the people of Tatamagouche recreate a significant moment in their village history. Chapter 2 moves back to the early 1940s, when Murray prepared for and embarked upon her teaching career at Tarbet, a one-room rural school. Chapter 3 describes Murray's work in organizing community projects for education students at Acadia University. While at Acadia, Murray took advantage of an opportunity to study music, which led her to direct a children's community choir. This chapter also traces the development of adult education in Nova Scotia and Murray's role as the first regional representative of adult education. Chapter 4 describes Murray's positive influence on the children who participated in her choirs. Chapter 5 describes Murray's role in the growth of community schools for the arts, the development of the provincial Festival of the Arts, and the development of the education division's music services. Chapter 6 overviews Murray's experience as an inner-city school teacher, her decision to provide a home for a young student, and community projects that emanated from her New Annan farmhouse. Chapter 7 examines the leadership of Betty Murray and points to an expanded definition of community, teaching, and the arts. It supports the study of philosophy, as well as technique, for potential teachers and urges those who appoint teachers to positions of leadership to consider character as well as capability. (Includes photographs, an index, and chapter notes.) (LP)

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